

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/564,633

Response filed March 4, 2009

Reply to OA dated December 5, 2008

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1, 4 and 5 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 9-12, and add new claims 14-20, as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Currently amended): An ink jet recording material according to claim [[1]] 6, wherein the pigment has an oil absorption represented by JIS K5101 of not less than 160 ml/100 g and not more than 320 ml/100 g.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): An ink jet recording material according to claim [[1]] 6, wherein the coating solution of the pigment layer has a pH of not less than 8 and not more than 11, and the coating solution of the first ink-receiving layer has a pH of not less than 3 and not more than 5.

Claims 4-5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently amended): An ink jet recording material formed by coating a coating solution of a pigment layer and a coating solution of at least one ink-receiving layer in succession on at least one side of a paper support and drying the resulting coating layers, wherein the pigment contained in the pigment layer has an average secondary particle diameter of not less than 1  $\mu\text{m}$  and not more than 5  $\mu\text{m}$ , 50% by volume or more of the total volume of the pigment has a secondary particle diameter of not less than 1.2  $\mu\text{m}$  and not more than 15  $\mu\text{m}$ , a first ink-receiving layer directly coated on the pigment layer contains at least inorganic ultrafine particles, a hydrophilic binder and boric acid or a borate, and the dry coating amount of the first ink-receiving layer is not less than 20% by mass and not more than 120% by mass of the dry coating amount of the pigment layer,

wherein the inorganic ultrafine particles contained in the first ink-receiving layer are an alumina hydrate, and

~~An ink jet recording material according to claim 4,~~ wherein a second ink-receiving layer coated on the first ink-receiving layer contains an alumina hydrate as the inorganic ultrafine particles.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): An ink jet recording material formed by coating a coating solution of a pigment layer and a coating solution of at least one ink-receiving layer in succession on at least one side of a paper support and drying the resulting coating layers, wherein the pigment contained in the pigment layer has an average secondary particle diameter of not less than 1  $\mu\text{m}$  and not more than 5  $\mu\text{m}$ , 50% by volume or more of the total volume of the pigment has a secondary particle diameter of not less than 1.2  $\mu\text{m}$  and not more than 15  $\mu\text{m}$ , a first ink-receiving layer directly

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coated on the pigment layer contains at least inorganic ultrafine particles, a hydrophilic binder and boric acid or a borate, and the dry coating amount of the first ink-receiving layer is not less than 20% by mass and not more than 120% by mass of the dry coating amount of the pigment layer,

an ink jet recording material according to claim 1, wherein the inorganic ultrafine particles contained in the first ink-receiving layer are a gas phase process silica and/or a wet process silica which is ground until the average secondary particle diameter reaches not more than 500 nm, and

~~An ink jet recording material according to claim 5,~~ wherein a second ink-receiving layer coated on the first ink-receiving layer contains an alumina hydrate as the inorganic ultrafine particles.

Claim 8 (Original): An ink jet recording material according to claim 7, wherein the gas phase process silica or wet process silica contained in the first ink-receiving layer has a specific surface area according to BET method which is smaller than that of the alumina hydrate contained in the second ink-receiving layer.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): An ink jet recording material according to claim [[1]] 6, wherein at least one ink-receiving layer contains a basic polyaluminum hydroxide.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): An ink jet recording material according to claim [[1]] 6, wherein at least one ink-receiving layer other than the first ink-receiving layer contains boric acid or a borate.

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Claim 11 (Currently amended): An ink jet recording material according to claim [[1]] 6 which has a 75° specular gloss specified in JIS P8142 of not less than 55% and not more than 80%.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): An ink jet recording material according to claim [[1]] 6, wherein the gas permeability in the state of the pigment layer provided on the paper support is 30 to 1,000 seconds.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): An ink jet recording material according to claim 2, wherein the gas permeability in the state of the pigment layer provided on the paper support is 30 to 1,000 seconds.

Claim 14 (New): An ink jet recording material according to claim 7, wherein the pigment has an oil absorption represented by JIS K5101 of not less than 160 ml/100 g and not more than 320 ml/100 g.

Claim 15 (New): An ink jet recording material according to claim 7, wherein the coating solution of the pigment layer has a pH of not less than 8 and not more than 11, and the coating solution of the first ink-receiving layer has a pH of not less than 3 and not more than 5.

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Claim 16 (New): An ink jet recording material according to claim 7, wherein at least one ink-receiving layer contains a basic polyaluminum hydroxide.

Claim 17 (New): An ink jet recording material according to claim 7, wherein at least one ink-receiving layer other than the first ink-receiving layer contains boric acid or a borate.

Claim 18 (New): An ink jet recording material according to claim 7, which has a 75° specular gloss specified in JIS P8142 of not less than 55% and not more than 80%.

Claim 19 (New): An ink jet recording material according to claim 7, wherein the gas permeability in the state of the pigment layer provided on the paper support is 30 to 1,000 seconds.

Claim 20 (New): An ink jet recording material according to claim 14, wherein the gas permeability in the state of the pigment layer provided on the paper support is 30 to 1,000 seconds.